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PATENT SPECIFICATION

Application Date, July 10, 1918. No. 11,330/18.
Complete Accepted, Mar. 27, 1919.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in or relating to Infantry Shields.

I, ALBERT HUDZIAK, 2609, N. Tejon Street, City of Colorado Springs, State of Colorado, United States of America, Mechanic, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to infantry shields and has for its primary object to provide an improved construction and arrangement of shield which can be conveniently carried by a soldier and which can be set up for use in holding off bullets while firing upon the enemy. A further object of the invention is the provision of a foldable shield adapted to deflect bullets when set up for use, the structure being arranged for positioning upon the ground in the form of a barrier to accommodate a soldier positioned behind the same for firing through the barrier forwardly thereof. It has heretofore been proposed to provide a portable screen for use as a munition of war and comprising rectangular plates connected by a partition and by a hinged strut, the said partition being mounted on a wheel so that the screen can be wheeled about as desired, and the sides being hingedly connected to the partition in such a manner that they remain coupled together whether in the expanded or collapsed condition.

According to the present invention the shield comprises a pair of rectangular plates arcuate in horizontal section and having cut-away portions in their adjacent vertical edges forming a firing opening in the device, the said plates being positioned in substantially V shaped arrangement when operatively positioned, hinged connections between the adjacent vertical edges of the plates arranged at opposite sides of the opening, the sides of said opening being adjustable by swinging the plates upon said hinge connections whereby the area of the opening is varied, a pair of carrying straps connected between said plates to limit separation thereof, positioned hooks arranged between said plates, and means to retain the hooks in substantially vertical inoperative position.

Figure 1 is a rear perspective of the device in its spread out arrangement.

Figure 2 is a top plan view thereof.

Figure 3 is an enlarged detailed sectional view through one of the retaining clips and

Figure 4 is a sectional view thereof taken upon line 4—4 of Figure 3.

It being understood that the device is in the nature of a bullet shield, the same consists of two arcuate plates 10 and 11, formed of bullet-proof material and being of equal size, the same plates being connected by hinges 12 and 13 at their adjacent ends. A strap 14 connects the two plates 10 and 11 together limiting their outward movement upon the said hinges 12 and 13 and whereby the device may be positioned in V-shaped arrangement as shown in Figure 2 of the drawing having a pointed end or nose 15. The device may be readily carried upon the back of a soldier with the strap 14 positioned around his neck

while a retaining belt 16 is carried by the section 11 having an engaging buckle 17 upon the section 10 for convenience in securing the device upon the soldier for carrying the same from place to place.

When it is desired to use the device as a shield, the same is positioned upright on the ground and long hooks 18 carried by each of the plates 10 and 11 are released from securing clips 19 upon the said plates and are swung into engagement with oppositely positioned eyes 20 carried by the said plates for this purpose. A pentagonal opening or loophole 21 is arranged in the nose 15 of the device for convenience in firing therethrough upon the enemy positioned forwardly of the device. By releasing the hooks 18 and drawing the plates 10 and 11 inwardly toward each other the area of the opening 21 will be diminished or in other words, the drawing toward each other of the opposite three-sided walls 22 of the opening 21 presents a smaller opening through which the bullets of the enemy can pass. The size of the opening 21 is regulated in this manner by the soldier having charge of the shielding device, the opening 21 being the largest when the plates 10 and 11 are outstretched to the limit of their relative movement. It will be understood that the sides 22 of the opening 21 are in the form of cut out portions in the adjacent edges of the plates 10 and 11 so that the hinges 12 and 13 are positioned upon opposite sides of the opening, above and below the same.

The device may be constructed of metal that is light in weight and the shields may be transported in trucks to a convenient point requiring them to be carried only a short distance by the soldiers and being readily set up for use and adjusted the same are adapted for preventing loss of life while permitting the soldiers to readily fire upon the enemy.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. An infantry shield comprising a pair of rectangular plates arcuate in horizontal section and having cut-away portions in their adjacent vertical edges forming a firing opening in the device, the said plates being positioned in substantially V-shaped arrangement when operatively positioned, hinge connections between the adjacent vertical edges of the plates arranged at opposite sides of the opening, the sides of said opening being adjustable by swinging the plates upon said hinge connections whereby the area of the opening is varied, a pair of carrying straps connected between said plates to limit separation thereof, positioned hooks arranged between said plates, and means to retain the hooks in substantially vertical inoperative position.

2. In combination, two rectangular plates arcuate in horizontal section and adapted to be positioned in substantially V-shaped arrangement when in use, spaced hinge connections between the adjacent vertical edges of said plates, said plates having a firing opening therein between said hinged connections, positioning hooks swingingly carried by the plates adjacent their free ends, keepers for said hooks, spring clips carried by the plates to receive and retain said hooks in substantially vertical position when not in use, and flexible carrying means for the plates to limit the separation of the latter.

3. An infantry shield constructed substantially as hereinbefore described and illustrated in the accompanying drawing.

Dated this 10th day of July, 1918.

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124,353. HUDZIAK'S COMPLETE SPECIFICATION. (1 SHEET)

Mar 27-19

hinged shield intended to set up on ground

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FIG. 1.

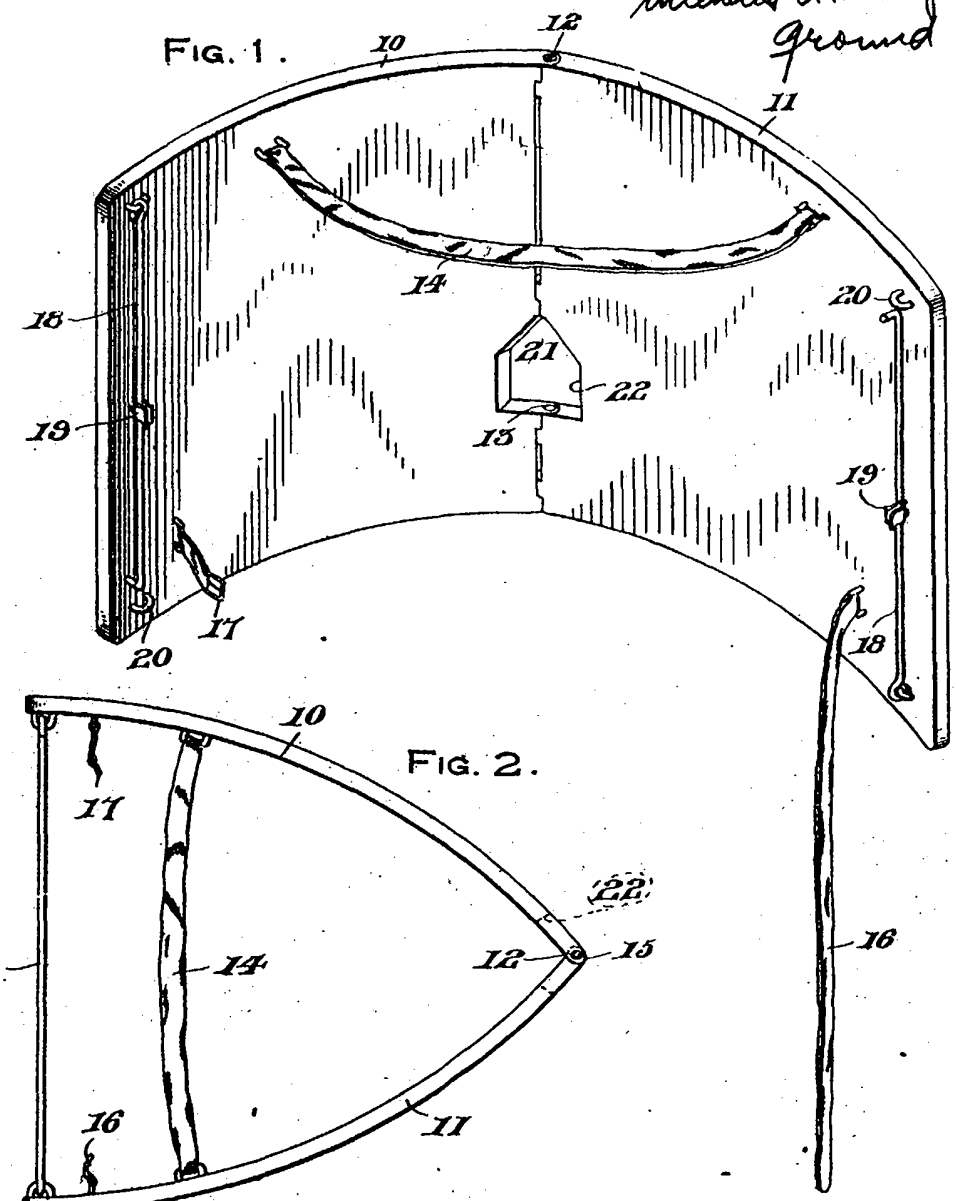

FIG. 2.

FIG. 3.

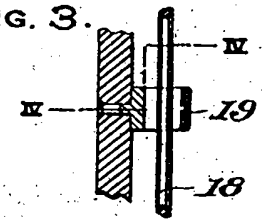

FIG. 4.